

Diamond's Edge

Did you know ... residents will not play music at a volume audible to anyone other than the listener(s) to include car stereos?
Ref: 35TH FW Instruction 36-2901 5.2

Source: Misawa First Sergeants

Misawa Air Base DUI/DWI Hitboard

Total number of
DUI/DWI incidents
at Misawa
this year

0

as of Thursday

Last DUI/DWI: 35th Maintenance Squadron

Number of days
since the last
DUI/DWI at
Misawa

49

as of Thursday

Source: 35th Security Forces Squadron

Weekend Weather



Saturday

Isolated
snow
H 32/L 24



Sunday

Snow
H 31/L 23

Source: 35th OSS Weather Flight

Northern Light

Proudly Serving the People of Misawa Air Base, Japan — Best in PACAF 2002!

Vol. 27, No. 6

www.misawa.af.mil/northernlight

Feb. 14, 2003

Misawa steps up, helps families of deployed

by Airman 1st Class
Abby Young

35th Fighter Wing Public Affairs office

The Misawa community has answered the call to extend and increase support to people whose loved ones are deployed.

With AEF 7 demanding the presence of many of Misawa's airmen, the absence of the 35th Fighter Wing's troops is being felt by families and loved ones.

"The toughest part (about deployments) is losing my husband and best friend," said Capt. Tonya Ulmer, 35th FW Protocol, whose husband is currently deployed out of the 14th Fighter Squadron on AEF 7. "However, the separation is a perfect opportunity to draw closer to the Air Force family, renew friendships and reach out to support each other."

This is why several units on base are stepping up to extend support to this specific part of the community.

For example, the 35th Services Squadron has extended its AEF passport program for spouses and dependents of deployed people.

These passports offer families the opportunity to use services' facilities and participate in programs once a month for free or at a discount, said Maj. Liza Parr, 35th SVS commander. In the past, passports were good for things like a round of golf, a free pizza at the Mokuteki or an oil change. Maj. Parr said even though offerings are not finalized yet, they will be similar to what was previously offered.

"The AEF 'We Care Passports' are provided to families of personnel who are deployed for 30 days or more," she added. "The passports were previously good for three months (the duration of most AEF deployments). With AEF 7 troops currently in place until further notice, we are extending the program and will be issuing new monthly passports beginning in March."

Maj. Parr said March passports will be available the last week of February.

Capt. Ulmer, together with many "Samurai wives," has taken advantage of what services has to offer her while her husband is deployed. "The spouses have been great at supporting each other. We can turn to each other when we are lonely and frustrated," she said. "The separation has provided opportunities for us to travel to Korea on an MWR shopping trip, meet at the officers' club every Friday night for dinner, go on snow boarding trips ... the list goes on and on."

The services squadron isn't the only unit contributing to the support and morale of the community. Misawa's Family Support Center has added several classes to its already diverse list of programs designed for people who have family members deployed for 30 days or longer.



Photo by Senior Airman Ann Caponetti

Airman 1st Class Melissa Barone, 373rd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, repairs a leaking sink in a shower/lavatory trailer. A1C Barone, of the 35th CES at Misawa, is one of many base personnel whose deployment has been extended until further notice.

See 'Deployment,' Page 3.

AF, NASA test revolutionary automatic collision avoidance

by Capt. Catie Hague
Air Force Flight Test Center
Public Affairs office

The U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., with the support from the neighboring NASA Dryden Flight Research Center, is breaking new ground with an innovative research project intended to help prevent midair collisions.

Flight testing of the Automatic Air Collision Avoidance System, known as Auto ACAS, is scheduled to take off in March. Testing could prove the potential of this revolutionary concept; its ability to see and avoid aircraft on an airborne collision course.

This project is designed as a four-session technology evaluation planned to last through July. Session 1, in the March timeframe, is a systems check -- a chance to demonstrate that the Auto ACAS can be properly incorporated into an aircraft and work with all other

systems. Session II, proposed for May, is the initial data-collection phase using the Variable-stability, In-flight Simulation and Test Aircraft F-16 to fly against a virtual target.

Session III, projected for June, is a second systems check using a production F-16 Fighting Falcon from Eglin AFB, Fla.

Session IV, anticipated for July, is the end result -- an opportunity to test Auto ACAS in scenarios using both the VISTA and a production F-16.

Throughout these four sessions, TPS officials will conduct approximately 30 missions, each one engineered to test the Auto ACAS design.

Auto ACAS is an algorithm -- a set of instructions and computer code, explained Maj. Jim Less, TPS Auto ACAS project pilot. Developed by Boeing and Saab, the algorithm decides when an avoidance

See 'ACAS,' Page 4.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Mary Weaver

See how nice his smile is?

Tech. Sgt. Bodie McCoy, 35th Dental Squadron, shows Cummings Elementary students about proper brushing techniques while brushing the teeth of a stuffed animal with a serious overbite. This school visit, along with visits to other Misawa schools, home-school students and daycare facilities, is part of Children's Dental Health Month. Other events include a Dental Information Display from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the BX and a clown show and boxing match from 9 to 10:30 p.m. Feb. 22 at the Bong Theater.

Putting a good foot forward

■ **Editor's note:** This commentary mirrors the commander's weekly update on AFN Misawa.

by **Brig. Gen. Dana T. Atkins**
35th Fighter Wing and Misawa
Installation commander

Like you, I feel privileged to work, live and play in one of the safest, most beautiful communities in the Pacific.

We have a uniquely wonderful relationship with our Misawa city neighbors that we have enjoyed for more than 50 years. From time to time though, a few individuals tend to breach our friendship, creating tensions between Misawa Air Base and the local community.

Recently, there have been several incidents of disrespectful behavior by Misawa Air Base members at

downtown establishments. Granted, the numbers are small, but in all instances, the people acted with poor judgment. When incidents of this nature occur, it doesn't just create a bad feeling among our Japanese hosts — it breeds a negative impression against all Americans that lasts for years to come.

As guests in a host nation, you have the obligation to be good ambassadors of the United States and your respective service. It's important to note that the partnership we have with Misawa city is built upon the tenets of trust and friendship — and we need to continue those tenets if we are going to be successful in our mission.

To minimize future occurrences that discredit the image of American servicemembers at Misawa, I've instructed comman-

ders at all levels to take an aggressive approach to combat and discipline offenders.

The bottom line is that disrespectful behavior in the community is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

If you see someone acting in a disrespectful manner, be proactive and intervene to correct the behavior. In many cases, a gentle reminder is all that it takes — but if the behavior persists, contact security forces and let them handle the situation.

I want to thank you for all great things you do to contribute to our mission here at Misawa. I look forward to going to work every day because of the professional men and women like who are the point at the tip of the spear.

Thanks, stay safe and continue to take care of each other.

Building a better community

Misawa's contractors stay active in QOL projects

by **Maj. Anthony McGraw**
35th Contracting Squadron

If you live or work on Misawa Air Base, chances are the 35th Contracting Squadron has impacted your quality of life or the facilities where you work. Contractors daily perform many functions, including custodial services, waste removal and telephone and cable TV systems maintenance and repairs.

They have also built several facilities on base, including a new building at Cummings Elementary School. They have refinished the bleachers at Potter Fitness Center and made several major repairs to the base runway. That's a big contribution, but it's just the tip of the iceberg.

In a nutshell, CONS awards and administers contracts that, in turn, make improvements happen.

The office is comprised predominately of contracting officers, contract administrators, a government purchase card team and support personnel.

A CO has earned the authority to enter into con-

tractual agreements with contractors or to modify existing agreements on behalf of the United States government.

CONS has the majority of COs on the installation and the only COs within the 35th Fighter Wing with authority to award contracts more than \$5,000. The CO is also a fiscal steward of tax dollars and accountable to the American public for wise use of funds.

The GPC team manages Misawa's GPC program by conducting training for nearly 400 people annually, ensuring purchases are made properly, and advising senior leadership on the health of the GPC program. Cardholders are similar to a CO with very low contracting authority.

CONS is a group of contracting professionals helping your organizations meet their mission needs lawfully and at the best value. We're located outside the main gate on the east side of the road. We are ready to serve you in helping keep the point on the tip of the spear sharp.

Reflecting during Black History Month

by **Petty Officer 3rd Class**
Jamie Johnson

U.S. Navy
Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing,
Detachment One

Dr. Carter Woodson first started Negro History Week in 1926 as an annual celebration and recognition of the contributions of African-Americans and their historical significance in America.

What is now known as Black History Month is a time dedicated to honoring and remembering the courage, perseverance and remarkable legacy that has surrounded the African-American struggle for justice and equality.

Since the first arrival of Africans in America until today, the journey for equality has been marked by

triumph, tragedy, achievement and progress. For all Americans, Black History Month is a time to look at our nation's past and learn of the many sacrifices that were made to get us to where we are today.

During February, we honor the millions of African-Americans that have stood up for justice and those that were willing to die for equality. We honor the millions of people who were the heart and soul of the civil rights movement, a movement that lead to the integration of American society. We also honor those who continue to fight for equality in the African-American community today.

A major contribution of African-Americans has been their great role in the American military. From the Civil War to Enduring

Freedom, African-American soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines have given their lives to preserve freedom in America. Prior to the integration of the U.S. military, African-American servicemembers gave their lives for the defense of a nation that would not treat them as equals. African-Americans were once only allowed to serve in limited capacities, such as infantry, kitchen duties and assistants. Now there are African-Americans in every area of the military, from intelligence to fighter pilots.

Whether you like music, sports, poetry, politics or art, Black History Month offers the opportunity to learn about interesting people and events that helped shape our nation.

Commander's Action Line (226-3700) Please Use It



The Action Line provides "direct communication" between you and me. This valuable open channel has but one purpose — to make our community better. Your input of ideas, concerns, highlighting problems and suggested solutions are the lifeblood to building a stronger foundation where our families thrive and our mission succeeds. There are many dedicated professionals at Misawa — officer, noncommissioned officer and civilian — who are experts in their respective fields. Please offer them the opportunity to answer your question in concert with your unit chain of command. They share the same vision for Misawa as I do. However, those concerns that do come to the Action Line have my personal attention.

Dana T. Atkins

Brig. Gen. Dana T. Atkins
35th Fighter Wing and
Misawa Air Base
installation commander

Who to call for assistance

Air Force Aid Society	226-9316
American Red Cross	226-3016
Auto skills center	226-4654
Bowling center	222-7731
Chaplain	226-4630
Commissary manager	226-3823
Community center	226-4128
Education center	226-4201
Enlisted club	222-9449
Facility maintenance	226-3693
Family day care	226-2273
Family services	226-3665
Family support center	226-4735
Health and wellness center ..	226-6653
Hospital	226-3506
Housing maintenance	226-2327
Housing manager	226-2394
Housing office	226-3200
Law enforcement desk	226-4358
Library	226-4083
Main exchange manager	222-7410
Military clothing sales	222-8709
Officers' club	226-2016
Pass and registration	226-3995
Teen center	226-2170
35th Services Squadron	226-3008
Youth center	226-3200

Misawa First Sergeants initiate 'sharp' program

by Staff Sgt. Mikal Canfield

35th Fighter Wing Public Affairs office

Misawa's First Sergeants Council is initiating a new program aimed at promoting and rewarding professional appearance and stellar performance.

The "Diamond Sharp" program gives the base's enlisted leaders a chance to reward Misawa's best by handing out cards and prize vouchers when exceptional performance or appearance is observed.

"The idea behind the 'Diamond Sharp' program is to give some incentive to our military members who go out of their way to have a sharp-looking uniform or do a good deed," said Master Sgt. Scot Ashton, 35th Medical Group first sergeant and Misawa First Sergeants Council president. "In addition to correcting uniform infractions, the shirts get a chance to commend those who have demonstrated outstanding dress and appearance."

The program is designed to work like this:

- A Misawa first sergeant observes an enlisted person with either sharp dress or appearance or in the

act of doing a good deed;

- The first sergeant awards a "Diamond Sharp" card on the spot and tells the recipient why he/she is getting the card;

- The recipient of the card fills out his/her name, rank, squadron, duty section and phone number on the card and is instructed to give the card to his/her first shirt; and

- The recipients first sergeant exchanges an award voucher for the "Diamond Sharp" card.

"Award vouchers can be anything from an AAFES gift certificate to a free slice of pizza or movie rental," he said.

Card recipients can also expect to see their name in the "Misawa Salutes" section of the Northern Light, Master Sgt. Ashton added. Unit commanders will also be informed of the exceptional behavior.

"There are some other guidelines that apply to this program," he said. "First sergeants cannot award cards to members of their own units and are limited to awarding one 'Diamond Sharp' card per week."

The first sergeant's council hopes to implement the program by the end of February.



Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Richard Henson

Red Feather champs

Commander Jeffrey Proper, Commanding Officer Naval Security Group Activity Misawa, and Petty Officer 1st Class Andre Jenkins stand with Mr. Moriyoshi Hyashi, the Chairman of the Misawa Red Feather Fund, after the presentation of the 2002 Red Feather Campaign Trophy. The annual Red Feather Campaign is a fund-raising event that every U.S. military installation in Japan takes part in. Through each bases fund-raising activities, money is generated and donated to the local Japanese community. NSGA was Misawa's leading contributor, raising more than \$6,000 of the \$18,600 total the base raised during 2002. The Japanese Red Feather Campaign falls under United Way International.

'Deployment'

Continued from Page 1

These on-going programs and special events help reduce the stress caused by extended deployments, said Maj. Barbara Severson-Olsen, Misawa's Family Support Center director.

The family support center offers classes like 'Cookie Care' for children of deployed people. The children can make and send a cookie care package to their special someone miles away. 'Scrapbooking Here and There' allows deployed people and their families to make two scrapbooks that tell the story of life during the deployment.

Along with having classes to support families, the family support center is also active in keeping the lines of communication open between deployed troops and their loved ones.

Using the Video Teleconferencing Center allows people to actually see and talk to deployed members at Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi

Arabia, through a speaker phone and video camera.

With all the support the Misawa community receives, it is important to remember that it extends beyond our front gate. Being in the middle of the 'deployment season' means Misawa extends literally around the world; to include every deployed airman, sailor, soldier and Marine.

"I support my husband 100 percent," said Capt. Ulmer. "I see this separation as an opportunity to do what we train for. The separation will eventually finish and I'll have a renewed appreciation for my spouse when he's home again. I do hope he makes it home for the birth of our baby girl but, if not, I have a great support system here to see me through that experience."

Staff Sgt. Curtis Sutton, 379 Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron deployed to a forward

deployed location out of the 35th CES, said he was disappointed when he first heard AEF 7 was extended. "All I can do is make the best of it. My faith in God will carry me through this," he added.

Brig. Gen. Dana T. Atkins, 35th Fighter Wing and Misawa Installation commander, ensures the support for Misawa's deployed people and families is unwavering.

"Now, more than ever, is a time for our community to pull together as one team to support our men and women who are deployed and our family members who remain here at Misawa," he said. "As we continue to tailor our response to world events, we all have a part to play and I thank you - our family members, civilians, airmen, soldiers, sailors and Marines - who have been dedicated and committed in accomplishing our mission here at Misawa."

For more information on Family Support Center programs for the families of deployed personnel, call 226-9556. For more information on 35th SVS specials for the families of deployed personnel, call 226-9272.

'I do hope he makes it home for the birth of our baby girl but, if not, I have a great support system here to see me through that experience.'

— Capt. Tonya Ulmer

Northern Light

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The deadline for submission of articles to the Northern Light editor is Thursday at 4:30 p.m. for publication in the next available issue.

All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated. This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services overseas. Contents of the Northern Light are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 35th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office at Misawa Air Base, Japan.

People who have a story or photo idea can e-mail northern.light@misawa.af.mil or call 226-3814.

Smile, Misawa!

The Northern Light is published each Friday for people like Kara Close, a volunteer administrative specialist with the Public Health Flight. "With her 'never quit, I can get it done' attitude, she's a key contributor to the functioning of the many faceted programs Public Health maintains," said Tech. Sgt. Keven Ward, NCO in charge, Public Health Flight.



5 officer specialties bonus eligible

More than 6,000 officers in five critical skill career fields are now eligible to receive a retention bonus of up to \$40,000 — \$10,000 per year for up to four years — as a result of the Air Force's Critical Skills Retention Bonus Program.

The people who may qualify are scientists, developmental engineers, acquisition program managers, civil engineers and communications and information officers with four to 13 years of commissioned service who are willing to commit to serving up to four more years. Those eligible can start to receive their annual payments in March or April.

Officers who become eligible for the CSRB before Sept. 30 have until Aug. 31 to take advantage of the bonus.

This bonus is a result of the Science and Engineering Summit held Dec. 6, 2001. It is offered to help improve retention in these five career fields, which have had the lowest retention rates in the Air

Force for several years, said Lt. Col. Dean Vande Hey, deputy chief of mission support officer assignments at the Air Force Personnel Center here.

"This bonus should help make an Air Force career more financially competitive with civilian sector salaries," he said.

Most officers who qualify for the bonus will receive the standard four-year, active-duty service commitment that runs concurrently with any other service commitments.

The exception is officers who have completed 11, 12 or 13 years of commissioned service, said Vande Hey. These officers would receive three-, two- and one-year, active-duty service commitments based on corresponding agreements at the same rate of \$10,000 a year.

For more information, call the Air Force Contact Center at (866) 229-7074 or DSN 665-5000. (Story Courtesy of AFPC News Service)



Photo by Staff Sgt. Andrew Rodier

Broadcasting excellence

Petty Officer 2nd Class Auburn Hutton, Detachment 12, Armed Forces Network Misawa, operates the video camera for the AFN Misawa Newsbreak broadcast. She was recently named the Naval Media Center's Detachment "Bluejacket of the Year." The sailor was selected out of more than 85 nominees. The program is designed to recognize sailors who best exemplify performance and professionalism.

'ACAS' Continued from Page 1

maneuver is required; it predicts the recovery flight path, evaluates other aircraft flight paths and determines the best escape maneuver. The auto pilot executes the avoidance maneuver based on the aircraft's limits and disengages as soon as the flight paths deconflict.

"Basically, the algorithm is doing the 'see and avoid,'" said Mark Skoog, NASA Dryden Auto ACAS technical adviser and flight test director.

To safely test this capability without forcing two aircraft to enact a midair collision, the ACAS team will primarily use simulators.

"We'll have a computer on the ground running a simulation program," said Less. "This program will be connected to a data link, and the information will be sent up to the aircraft. The pilot will see a virtual airplane in his path through a helmet-mounted sight."

According to Skoog, the aircraft will think the simulated plane is real and try to avoid it.

"In other words, this simulation program will allow us to test Auto ACAS without putting people or aircraft in danger," said Skoog.

The simulation program will not only be used for safety reasons, but will also aid in test efficiency.

"It is easier to set up a virtual target in the exact right place at the exact right time, than it is to coordinate the positions of two separate aircraft," said Jeff Chen, TPS Auto ACAS project engineer. "Using a virtual plane, we will be able to accomplish more runs and collect more data points."

Auto ACAS is a big undertaking for the test pilot school, said Less.

"TPS doesn't usually tackle projects of this nature," he said. "We are ultimately involved because the school owns a one-of-a-kind F-16 reserved for curriculum sorties and projects." (Story courtesy Air Force News Service)



Photo by Staff Sgt. Andrew Rodier

Attention to details

Airman 1st Class Andrew Bonjour, 35 Maintenance Squadron, puts the safety wire on the constant speed drive on an F-16 flown by the 13th Fighter Squadron.

Briefs

■ **Teacher under investigation** — The Nohechi police arrested a teacher from Sollars Elementary School Feb. 3 for stealing two fox statues from a shrine near the town of Noheji, which is located approximately 30 KM from Misawa. The police are investigating the case in connection with other shrine thefts reported throughout the Aomori Prefecture. The matter is being jointly investigated by Japanese and U.S. authorities.

"Incidents like this are unfortunate because, no matter what the outcome, they have the potential to damage the trust and friendship we have strived for 50 years to build with our local communities," said Brig. Gen. Dana T. Atkins, 35th Fighter Wing and Misawa Air Base installation commander. "This incident in no way reflects the overall moral and ethical values of the Misawa Air Base community. I'm confident this will be resolved through due process with U.S. and Japanese authorities working together."

■ **Off-limits area** — The base small arms range complex is off limits to everyone except for those on official business. A shooting hazard exists due to the facility's function as the primary means of weapons training. The range complex is located on the corner of Jefferson and Washington Drive and is clearly marked by signs, both in Japanese and English. Anyone found trespassing is subject to apprehension and disciplinary action. Those requiring access to the range should call the 35th Security Forces Combat Arms Training and Maintenance section at 226-9696.

■ **Chief icebreaker** — The Enlisted Community Organization is holding an icebreaker for Chief Master Sgt. Frank Smith, new 35th Fighter Wing command chief master sergeant, and his wife Terry at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the Tohoku Enlisted Club ballroom. Attire is casual (no jeans). For more information, call Ms. Athena Crabtree at 226-5677.

Dedicated to the one I love

2003 Valentine's Day messages

TEW: For all the dreams that you've made come true, and all the ones to come, you'll always be my Valentine, my Love, my Only One.
Love, N

To Mama Lola Divina,
Happy Valentine's!
Love Always,
Patick "PouPong" Tracy

To All Music Students,
You guys are the best,
keep up the good work.
Happy Valentine's Day!
Mrs. B. Landrey

K, Pumpkin, thank you for your unfailing love and support.
I love you,
J

To my everdearest Tisha,
Happy Valentine's Day!
Inan-aro takan maong, sika labat
... anggapo lay arom!
From, Tatang Ponce

Dearest Rose,
You have given me more than I could ever ask for. Hope, love, devotion, and a reason to be the good person you saw in me. I'll love you always.
Love, Jason

Michael,
I'm thinking about you! I thank the Lord for you every day. I hope the next four months fly by. I love and miss you!
Aloha, Me

To Veronica,
You are the love of my life. Love,
Shane

To Tegan, Tinnamon, Taliesun,
Happy Valentines Day to my 3
Lovely Princesses, Love Dad

Abby,
I love you and miss you.
Whatcha thinking about?
Michael

Every day is a dream come true for me.

Because I have you to spend the day with.

With all my heart and soul I love you, Dean.

God truly did have a hand in bringing us together.

Happy Valentines Day my Love.

Much Aloha,
Your Wife, Suzanne

Matt and Lauren,
Thanks for being such great kids.
We love you very much.
Mom & Dad

To Benita,
Happy Valentines Day and Happy Anniversary, been a wonderful 14 years!
From Bob

To Scott Bernard,
You were surely sent from Heaven and I shall always thank God.
Love Abbey

LaKenta,
Thank you for always being there when I need you most. You are my best friend and a great mother. You make my world complete.
I love you for ever and always.
Ian A. Douglas

Scott,
My blue eyed bebe ... you are my sweetheart always and forever.
Miki

To the McEuen Men,
Thanks for loving me just the way I am! 'The Mama'

Bob, You have been my inspiration You have been my support You have been and still are all that a woman needs. I love and adore you.

Happy Valentine's Day
Happy 14th Anniversary
Your Purple Rose

To my special Love
My heart burns deep
I hold you close as we sleep, with these feelings are views of joy, for in this world WE have our boys. Love, Andrew

Andrea, Dave, Levi, Kayla,
You guys are great
God Bless you
Happy Valentine's Day
Benita & Family

Russ, You are the best thing that ever happened to me.
We love you so very much forever and always.
Love Teresa, Chelsea, Courtney, Gabe, and Bry

Krista,
I miss you and long to be with you again ... I will be soon! I love you! Aleric

Annette, My sweetheart of 18 years. You are my one and only true love. Gerald

Matthew,
I just wanted to let you know you are not forgotten. I love you and miss you like crazy. This is OUR day!

Happy Valentine's Day baby!

Love, Your "Valentine"

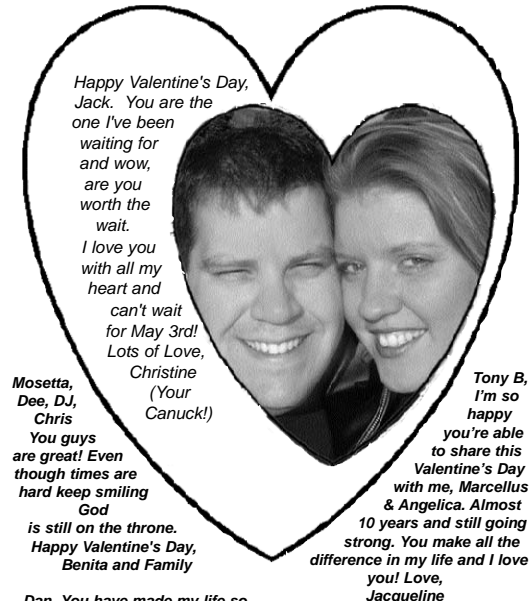
To Terry,
*** (three stars)
Love always,
Frank

Missy,
Can't believe this is our 20th Valentine's Day together, 19th as husband and wife! Pretty amazing from where we started. God has truly blessed our relationship and I thank Him every day for bringing us together. You are my best friend, soulmate, and the love of my life. You've given me three beautiful and talented children of whom I couldn't be prouder. I thank you for your devotion to me and the kids and promise to continue my devotion to you. You have always been "Spouse of the Year" to me. Happy Valentines Day!

I Love You and hope to be home soon!
Tim

Sara C.
Only he can make you happy.

Darren,
You're my best friend, a great husband and a wonderful father. When you least expect it, life gives you unexpected gifts. Life gave me you and I'm grateful. Always and Forever,
Love, Margo



Linda,
I wanted you to know ...

The morning are cool,
Warming by mid-day
Sand blows all around. I miss you.

My days are busy, going here and there

Hardly a moment to stop.
I think of you.

Evenings go slowly, minutes like hours
My heart begins to weep.
I cry for you.

I go to sleep.
I dream of you.

I Love You....
Rick

I wake in the morning
With a heavy heart,
Knowing how long we've been apart.
I long for you.

Yet I keep on going
Looking through our past,
Knowing how far we've grown.
I live for you.

I wanted you to know you're more than my wife.
You're my BEST friend.



Warrior of the Week

Ms. Norma Snyder

Organization
35th Maintenance
Squadron
Duty Title
35th MXS Secretary
Home
Milton, Penn.



"Norma runs the squadron. She keeps all of us coordinated, deconflicted, and makes the organization incredibly more efficient."

Lt. Col. Jeff Lowdermilk
35th MXS commander



Student of the Week

Chan Dong Kim
Age 6

School
Sollars Elementary
Hometown
Seoul, South Korea
Favorite Subject
Computers and Math



"Chan Dong Kim has surpassed all my expectations. In less than five months, he has learned to write sentences, discuss ideas from picture books and share his thoughts all in non-native English. He also enjoys playing piano and building snowmen in his front yard."

David Burkett
First Grade teacher

Misawa Salutes

■ **PACAF Award winners** — Lt. Col. Damian McCarthy and Master Sgt. Mark Witte, 35th Fighter Wing Inspector General office, were awarded the John P. Flynn Inspector General Award as best in Pacific Air Forces. The two winners now go on to compete at the Secretary of the Air Force level.

■ **IDEA Program** — Tech. Sgt. Kevin Nies, 35th Aerospace Medicine Squadron Flight Medicine office, was recently awarded \$950 for a suggestion the Air Force adopted via the Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program.

■ **PACAF Quarterly Award winner** — Staff Sgt. Casey Carrigan, 35th Comptroller Squadron, was recently named Pacific Air Forces Comptroller of the Quarter. Sgt. Carrigan was selected in the noncommissioned officer category.

■ **PACAF Media Contest winners** — The Northern Light newspaper was named best in Pacific Air Forces during the 2002 PACAF Media Contest. The newspaper now advances to compete at Air Force level.

DOD News U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

by **Rudi Williams**
American Forces Press Service

Noting that the Department of Defense's anthrax and smallpox vaccination plans are part of the global war on terrorism, Army Col. John Grabenstein said vaccines shield people from dangerous germs, keep them healthy so they can live better lives, and help them do their military missions and return home healthy.

Vaccines prevent infections such as tetanus, typhoid fever, measles, yellow fever, smallpox, anthrax and a host of other diseases, according to Grabenstein, 20-year expert in vaccines. He is deputy director for military vaccines, Office of

the Army Surgeon General. He spoke recently at the 2003 TRICARE Conference here.

"Anthrax and smallpox vaccines are very much alike and, at the same time, very much different," Grabenstein said during a conference session on DoD vaccination programs against the two diseases.

The World Health Organization declared smallpox eradicated in 1980. DoD stopped routine smallpox immunizations in 1990.

Grabenstein said President Bush announced the resumption of smallpox vaccinations on Dec. 13, 2002, and about 2,000 people on epidemic response teams received them shortly after. The total will climb to about one-half million as hos-

pital and clinic medical teams and mission-critical military forces are immunized.

The number of combat troops vaccinated will be reported to civilian public health authorities, but will not be released to the public, the colonel emphasized.

Controversy abounds about the pros and cons of inoculations against anthrax and smallpox, but Grabenstein assured conferees that whatever DoD medical professionals say or do is rooted in science. "We're evidence-based and have a firm foundation for what we do. We acknowledge what we don't know and try to get that data and proceed accordingly," he said. (Story courtesy of DefenseLink)

DoD emphasizes role vaccines play

A Carnival for you!

Sunday, February 16
10 am - 2 pm
Mutsu & Tohoku Clubs

A celebration hosted by the 35th Services Squadron
Game Booths, Prizes, Video Game Center, Arts & Crafts,
Family Karaoke and some surprises you won't want to miss!

Special Carnival Brunch
(Adults \$7, Kids 6 - 12 \$3, Kids 5 & under Free)

We Care MISAWA Carnival

DoD tests dependent CONUS Space-A travel

The Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Transportation Policy) has approved a one-year test to evaluate the expansion of space-available privileges for dependents traveling within the Continental United States. The test will allow dependents of active duty and retired Uniformed Services members to travel within the CONUS when accompanied by their sponsors. The test begins April 1 and will end April 1, 2004.

Dependents will assume the same category of travel as their sponsor. Space-available sign up for this program will be effective April 1. Retired members may

sign up 60 days in advance but no earlier than April 1.

Active duty Uniformed Services members must be in a leave or pass status to register for space-available travel, remain in a leave or pass status while awaiting travel, and be in a leave or pass status the entire period of travel.

For additional information concerning space-available travel and sign-up procedures, see the Air Mobility Command web site at <http://amcpubscott.af.mil/Spacea/spacea.htm> or contact the servicing DOD air terminal of interest. (Story courtesy DefenseLink)

USAFA seeks bios, photos of grads in work force

The Office of the Dean of Faculty is seeking biographies and high quality on-the-job and in-training photos of Academy graduates who are in the Air Force work force or attending flight training or other technical schools.

The biographies and photos will be used in a display along the entire length of a second floor in Fairchild Hall, the academic facility here. The Dean of Faculty hopes to have at least four Academy grads from each major and unified command represented in the display.

The display will, among other things,

highlight the accomplishments, activities, opinions and commentaries of recent USAFA graduates so current cadets can visualize their future in the Air Force.

Graduates interested in providing biographies and on-the-job or in-training action photos to this project may send them, no later than March 20, to: Maj. John Modinger, 34th Education Group/34th ES, U.S. Air Force Academy, CO 80840. For more information about the project, email Modinger at John.Modinger@USAFA.af.mil. (Story courtesy USAFA Public Affairs)

Ask Shuko



Q: What is the difference between Valentine's Day and White Day in Japan?

A: St. Valentine's Day is celebrated Feb. 14 while White Day is March 14.

On Valentine's Day in Japan, women give chocolate to men to express their affection. They give chocolate because in 1936 and 1962 Kobe confectionary began a campaign that called on women to give chocolates to the man in their hearts. In the late 1970's, White Day was conceived. On this day the men give the women they received chocolates from candies or cookies in return. If you have any topic or questions about Japanese culture, give me a call at 226-3075 or e-mail the Northern Light office at northern.light@misawa.af.mil.

School Lunch Menus



Edgrem High Monday

President's Day: no school

Tuesday

Hamburger on a bun, Spanish rice, fruit, sugar cookie, milk

Wednesday

Chili cheese fries, vegetables, fruit, Rice Krispie bar, milk

Thursday

Barbeque pork riblet sandwich, potato wedges, fruit, oatmeal raisin cookie, milk

Feb. 21

Chicken pot pie wrap, garden salad, baked roll, fruit, milk

■ **Editor's note:** High school students can choose between the elementary school menu and another selection.

School Square

Cummings and Sollars Elementary Monday

President's Day: no school

Tuesday

Cheese pizza dippers, Spanish rice, garden salad, fruit, sugar cookie, milk

Wednesday

Hot dog on a bun, macaroni and cheese, mixed vegetables, fruit, cocktail, milk

Thursday

Chicken pattie, potato wedges, fruit, oatmeal raisin cookie, milk

Feb. 21

Spaghetti and meat sauce, garden salad, baked roll, fruit, milk

■ **Editor's note:** For complete menus visit: <http://odin.aafes.com/nutrition/hsmen.htm>

Education Opportunities



■ **Japanese Classes** — Starting Feb. 25, Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Hachinohe. Cost is \$2,000 yen plus books. For more information, e-mail Corinne at corkyval@hotmail.com or call evenings 53-2664.

■ **CPR/First Aid Classes** — The American Red Cross offers a community CPR class March 8 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and a basic first aid class March 8 from 2 to 5 p.m. The cost for each class is \$25.

■ **Scholarships for high schoolers** — Misawa's Officer's Spouses Club offers scholarships to graduating Edgrem High School seniors. Application deadline is March 7.

Grissom Dining Facility

Today

Dinner — Yankee pot roast, simmered corn beef, pineapple chicken

Saturday

Brunch — Creole shrimp, doubly good chicken, savory baked chicken, Swedish meatballs

Dinner — Baked fish, barbecued chicken, doubly good chicken, Hungarian goulash

Sunday

Brunch — Cantonese spareribs, grilled mustard chicken, oven-fried fish

Dinner — Loin-strip steak, stir-fry beef with broccoli, turkey nuggets

Monday

Lunch — Baked stuffed fish, pot roast, roast pork loin

Dinner — Cannelloni beef, chili macaroni, Southern fried chicken

Tuesday

Lunch — Salmon cakes, teriyaki chicken, veal parmesan

Dinner — Country captain chicken, meatloaf, turkey a la king

Wednesday

Lunch — Barbecued ham steak, beef ball stroganoff, turkey and noodles

Dinner — Barbecued spareribs, lemon-herbed chicken, stuffed pork chops

Thursday

Lunch — Herb-baked chicken, Southern fried catfish

Dinner — Glazed cornish hen, jagerschitzel, roast pork loin

■ **Editor's note:** Menu items are subject to change.



What's Happening

Community Events

■ **Champagne Brunch** — Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Tohoku Enlisted Club ballroom. All ranks welcome.

■ **Open Mic Night** —

Thursday at 8 p.m. at the enlisted club sports bar.

■ **We Care Carnival** —

Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Mutsu and Tohoku clubs. Admission is absolutely free!

■ **Finding Real Love?** — Feb. 22 in the Mokuteki conference room from 7 to 9 p.m. for students in grades nine to 12. Sponsored by Misawa's main base chapel. For more information, call Mark Kellond at 226-4630.

■ **Bazaar** — Feb. 22 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Feb. 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Hangar 949.

■ **Stress Management** — Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m. in Bldg. 1000.

■ **Healthy Emotions** — Tuesday from 9 to 10 a.m. in Bldg. 1000.

■ **Birth To 12-Month Playgroup** — Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m. in Bldg. 94.

■ **Toddler Playgroup** — Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 to 11 a.m. in Bldg. 94.



BAZAAR

Richard Bong Theater

Today — "Just Married" (PG-13) Ashton Kutcher and Brittany Murphy, 7 p.m.

"Catch Me if You Can" (PG-13) Leonardo DiCaprio and Tom Hanks, 7 p.m.

Saturday — "Jonah - A Veggie Tales Movie" (G), 1 p.m. "Just Married" (PG-13), 7 p.m. "NARC" (R) Jason Patric and Ray Liotta, 9:30 p.m.

Sunday — "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" (PG), 1 p.m. "Moonlight Mile" (PG-13) Jake Gyllenhaal and Dustin Hoffman, 5 p.m.

Monday — "Just Married" (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Tuesday — "The Truth About Charlie" (PG-13) Mark Wahlberg and Thandie Newton, 7 p.m.

Wednesday — "Friday After Next" (R) Ice Cube and K.D. Aubert, 7 p.m.

Thursday — "Extreme Ops" (PG-13) Devon Sawa and Rufus Sewell, 7 p.m.

Feb. 21 — "Kangaroo Jack" (PG) Jerry O'Connell and Anthony Anderson, 7 p.m. "Just Married" (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Feb. 22 — "Treasure Planet" (PG) animated, 1 p.m. "Kangaroo Jack" (PG), 7 p.m. "Just Married" (PG-13), 9:30 p.m.

■ **Editor's note:** Movie lineup and starting times are subject to change.



Courtesy of Misawa's Family Support Center

Exotic cooking

Members of the Misawa community participate in one of the many cooking classes offered through Misawa's Family Support Center. As a special treat this month, people and their loved ones can learn exotic West Indian cooking. Classes are today. To sign up, call the family support center at 226-4735.



Catholic Services

Daily Mass — Mondays through Thursdays at noon

Sunday Masses — 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. **Sunday School** — Sundays at 11 a.m. (at Sollars Elementary School)

Confessions — First and third Mondays at 11 a.m. and second and fourth Mondays at 7 p.m.

Protestant Services

Holy Communion — Sundays at 8 a.m.

Sunday School — Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. (at Sollars Elementary School)

General Protestant — Sundays at 11 a.m.

Inspirational Worship — Sundays at 2 p.m.

Contemporary Worship — Sundays at 6 p.m.

35th Fighter Wing Chapel



Jewish Services

First and third Fridays of every month from 7 to 9 p.m.

Islamic Services

Fridays at noon

Seventh Day Adventist Services

Saturdays at 10 a.m. at Security Hill Chapel.

Hindu Study Group

First Friday of month from 11 a.m. to noon. Every other Friday of month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Contact numbers

Main chapel — 226-4630

After duty hours — 226-6648

Security Hill — 226-3064

Volleyball showdown leads to friendly smack down

by Airman 1st Class
Abby Young

35th Fighter Wing Public Affairs office

The stakes were high as five base organizations clashed at the First Four's volleyball smack down last week.

Teams representing Misawa's First Four, Focus 5/6, Top 3 and company and field grade officers battled it out to see who would triumph and go home with the winner's trophy.

The tournament began with the First Four playing company/field grade officers. The three matches were close, but First Four took the game.

"Our biggest challenge was discovering who was going to be on the team and learning to play with each other's strengths and weaknesses," said Joel Schmick, coordinator for the officer's team. "Our team did very well, especially since it was the first time the seven of us had walked onto the court together."

The First Four team went on to play the Top 3 in round two. After being defeated in the first match, the First Four confidently stepped back up to the net to play a second time. Their efforts paid off as they beat the Top 3 in round two.

However, with the Top 3 team putting up a good fight, the First Four was shut out in the last match. The Top 3 would go on to play for the winner's cup.

"We were aggressive, but stayed calm and focused," said Jay Tajalle, First Four's coach. "We communicated well and when we had the chance to score, we did."

Tajalle said he's proud of the way the whole team played, but Patrick Ruble made huge contributions in playing and helping the team come together.

With Focus 5/6 waiting their turn at the action, they were pumped up and ready to meet the senior enlisted team in the final game. The first match was a shut out with the junior NCOs winning 15 - 1.

The Top 3 wasn't about to go down without a fight, though, and smashed Focus 5/6 15 - 8 in the second match. With only one match left in the tournament, the last two teams went head-to-head for the last time to see who would win the bragging rights. Focus 5/6 came out on top, beating the Top 3 15 - 7.

"We played as we expected to," said Ben Ernst, Focus 5/6 coach. "The Top 3 put up a good fight, a great effort actually, but when it came down to it, Focus 5/6 refused to lose."

Ernst said that their most valuable player is 'Spence' Spencer, setter.

"(Top 3's) teamwork was awesome," said Theresa Chan, coordinator of the Top 3 team. "Their play on the court was so smooth, some spectators even asked if they were a 'regular' team."

Chan added that even though it takes a team to win, Roger Uptegraft and Feta Iafeta did a great job at keeping the team focused amidst the action.

"We had a great turnout," said Eric Rainer, First Four president and tournament coordinator. "Events like the volleyball tournament give us a good opportunity to get together and have a little



Photo by Master Sgt. Susie McEuen
Mark Witte and Dave Garcia, Top 3 players, go up for the block against Jay Tajalle, player for First Four during the second round of the First Four tournament last week.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Abby Young
Tajalle goes up for a spike against players from the company/field grade officers' team. The First Four scraped by with the win with match scores of 16-14, 13-15 and 15-13.

fun and friendly competition with other organizations on base."

Rainer said they are looking at a bowling tournament to be First Four's next multi-organizational event.

"I'd like to thank all the organizations, coaches, referees and score keepers for coming out and getting involved," he added.

Timeout

■ **Swim Team** — Registrations are Monday through Friday from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Lunney Youth Center. For more information, call 226-3882.

■ **Youth Soccer** — Registrations are Monday through March 17 at the youth center for ages five and up. The registration fee is \$25 and the child must have a current physical. The season begins April 5.

Schedules

Girls Basketball

Today Edgren vs. Perry at 5 p.m.

Today Edgren vs. E.J. King at 7 p.m.

Saturday E.J. King vs. Perry at 10 a.m.

Northern Light Game Highlights

■ Intramural, varsity, youth and high school coaches can fill in the sections below to highlight their team's key plays and players.

Sport: _____

Team name: _____

Coach's name and daytime telephone number(s): _____

Opponent: _____

Outcome/final score: _____

Day, date and time of game: _____

Location of game: _____

1. What was the greatest factor that determined the game's outcome and why?

2. Where did your opponent pose its greatest challenge and why?

3. Who were your most valuable players and why?

4. Was there a turning point in the game, and how did it influence the outcome?

■ Once complete, fax the information to the newspaper office at 226-9342, e-mail it to northern.light@misawa.af.mil, or hand carry it to the newspaper office in Room 28 of Bldg. 504 (35th Fighter Wing Headquarters on Risner Circle).

■ For more details, call 226-3814.